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Work on Bakti Caring Complex expected to be completed in May

SUNGAI BULOH, Tues. - The RM5.2 million-Bakti Caring Complex (Komplek Penyayang Bakti) in Bandar Sri Damansara here is expected to be completed in May.

Bakti president Datuk Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, who is wife of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, said today construction of the complex was 70 per cent completed.

She said the complex was a good example of a smart partnership between the Government, non-governmental organisation and private sector to help underprivileged children, the aged and single mothers.

Bakti or the Welfare Association of Wives of Ministers and Deputy Ministers coordinates the project, while the complex is built by Yarisan Holdings and managed by the Welfare Department.

Speaking after visiting the project site, Dr Siti Hasmah said 20 old people, 40 underprivileged children and two single mothers were expected to occupy the complex.

Also present were National Unity and Social Development Minister Datuk Dr Siti Zaharah Sulaiman, Yarisan Group president Robert Chan and Wan Hamizan Wan Mat, an engineer representing Yarisan.

She said the complex was built with family living concept in mind so that troubled children would have foster mothers to care for them and senior citizens as their foster grandparents.

"Caring complex like this is important and needed by the underprivileged community. We would like to see every State having such a complex," she said, adding that most States had community projects but with different concept and focus.

Dr Siti Hasmah called on the private sector and NGOs to contribute towards that end.

The complex, built on a 4.4ha site, consists 14 blocks of single storey buildings, a multi-purpose hall, a nursery, prayer hall, six leisure sheds and a budget hostel.

Another 1.8ha would be developed into an orchard with the co-operation of the Agriculture Ministry.

The Government will finance part of the administration costs and basic needs through administrative and organising grant. The balance will be obtained from fees of day-care centres, nurseries and rental of multi-purpose hall as well as the budget hostel.

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